



香港非牟利專上院校協會
The Council of Hong Kong
Non-Profit Making Tertiary Institutions

12 March 2012

By Fax & By Mail

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP
Chairman
Panel on Education
Legislative Council
Room 611, Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms. Lee,

The Council of Hong Kong Non-Profit Making Tertiary Institutions is formed by a group of institutions in the self-financed tertiary education sector which offer sub-Degree and Degree programmes. Recently, it came to our attention that while the Labour & Welfare Bureau has indicated that there will be a shortage of supply in the middle-class working population, the Vocational Training Council (VTC) has moved to offer programmes in the Degree level instead of the traditional vocational-related programmes.

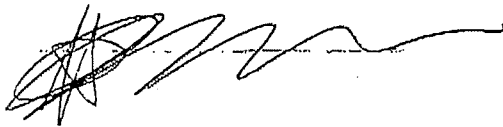
In the recent key findings on the manpower projection to 2018 released by the Labour & Welfare Bureau, it was indicated there will be a shortage of around 22,000 working population in the middle-class including both vocational and technical manpower up to sub-Degree graduates, while the demand for Degree level graduates will be approximately leveled. This shows that there will be a lack of supply in the middle-class working population.

Nevertheless, the current direction of VTC in offering Degree programmes may exert further pressure and further intensify the lack of labour supply in the middle-class working population. In the setting up of VTC, one of the main themes is to offer middle-level career-oriented programmes to train manpower of the corresponding level. In view of the current education policies of VTC, this could cause overlapping to a number of institutions currently offering Degree programmes while not alongside with its main theme when it was set up. More importantly, VTC is substantially subsidized by the government which involves taxpayers' money. This would also result in the duplication of resources.

We sincerely hope that the Legislative Council will keep close monitoring on the issue such that VTC will continue to maintain its role in training middle-class working forces which in turn will be beneficial to the society.

Best Regards.

Yours Sincerely,



CHUI Hong-sheung, JP

Chairman

The Council of Hong Kong Non-Profit Making Tertiary Institutions

*c.c. Mr. Michael SUEN, GBS, JP, Secretary for Education, EDB
Ms. Michelle Li, Deputy Secretary for Education, EDB
Ms. Linda So, Principal Assistant Secretary (Further Education), EDB
Members of Panel on Education, Legislative Council*